G. R. S. 58

Previous references.

S.R. 258-08: SR 1-2 Bang09.
SR 164 12 Sh 3 & 5 Bmay13 1909
(S.R.

File No. 68-09.

Serial Nos. 1-4

Later references.

Bjune13 Sh 1-3 S.R 241-12

(34) P

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-4

Part B. for January 1910.

SUBJECT.

Reduction in the Strength of Foreign Liquors sold in the State

---

1. From the F.A. Resident No. 6226. d. 20.9.09. Forwards a copy of the complaint from the wine merchants of Madras regarding the restriction that F. Liquors below 15° U.P shd not be sold in the State & suggests that the minimum strength of whiskey & brandy may be fixed at 25° U.P etc as is done in Br India.
2. To the Excise Comr No. H. 1811 d. 27.9.09 Forwards a copy of Sl 1 for an early report.
3. From the Same. No. 3967. d. 9.11.09. Submits his report in the case.

GPB.-8,000—7-4-07

4. To the F.A. Resident. No. Pol. 567 d. 13.1.10 Explains how it has been decided to change rule 21 of the Foreign Liquor Rules so as to leave no ground for complaint.

G.R.S.11] 1907.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(SR)

NOTES.

File No. 68-08

FILE HEADING.

Restrictions on the Strength of Foreign Liquors imported & sold in the State

From The F.M. Resident

No. 6226 Dated 20/9/07 Received 21/9/07

Diary No. 1310 Enclos. 1 Spare Copies { Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Forwards a copy of the Complaint from the Wine Merchants of Madras regarding the restriction that F.L. below 15° U.P. shall not be sold in the State and suggests that the minimum Strength of Whiskey & Brandy may be fixed at 25° U.P. & of Gin at 35° U.P. as is done in Mr. India.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

W The notes on SR 258-08 put up explain the case fully. It will be observed that it is already under contemplation to reduce the Strength of [illegible]

NOTES—First sheet

GPB—30,000—3-4-07.

Serial No.

8h267-08(D4276)
(linked file)

liquors to 25° UP and the Excise Comr has asked for powers to fix the strength to utter sale of foreign liquors sold in the State. His file ~~is now~~ was called to discuss on 8th instant. There seems no objection to reduce the strength as suggested by the Residency provided such liquors are not sold cheaper than the locally made special liquors and not interfere with our revenue.

Submitted for orders

Sd/-
27/8/08

W

"ok 28/8" The unofficial note of the Excise Commissioner in the file portion (no 208 of 08) shows that he is already contemplating action on the lines now suggested by the Residency. It will however be observed that the term of the licenses of F. L. Shops runs up to 3 years from 1908. Probably they will have no objection to have the strength of the liquor ~~to be~~ reduced.

The Excise Commissioner may think,

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50.000—18-5-08

Serial No.

be again connected para on the Specific proposals now made

24/9/09 SH

Secy

SMS

Yes
24/9/09

Send Copy of the Resl letter accepg

24/9/09 SH

Drfd & sent
SH
24/9/09
MR
24/9.

Issue

2 To the Executive 25/9 SH No 7181 & 27.9.09
forwards copy of G.O. 81 I for an early Report.

Drfd

The Resident has sent us premier the Ex. Council Resl. & Govt. Secl. the report. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~

Serial No.

postage and submit the file again a week hence if no reply is received

4/11/09 SD

3 From the Excise Com^r no. 3967 & 9.11.09

Submits his report in the case

In para 6 of the letter, the Excise Com^r explains how it is neither advisable nor safe to conform to the minimum strength prescribed for British India.

He however admits that there is some force in the observations of the Resident that the orders recently issued appear to prevent the sale in the State of many favorite and wholesome brands of foreign liquor. At the same time the points out, after contradicting in para 1 of the letter, the Resident's statement that the provision in Govt Notfn no 11469-E&7 3-01 & 10.1.02 regarding the prohibition in question has substantially remained a dead letter, that it is not any of the recent orders that have to do with the question, but that it is the original rule itself.

He adds that the safest cause is the price test and that there will be

Attention is also invited to para 2 of the Excise Com^r's Un Offl note in the collection portfolio.

19

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50.000—18-5-08

Mysore

D. O. No. 556/En 2 — 23 Dec 09.

My dear Sir,

Enclosed is a memorandum and the draft of a letter proposed to issue to the Residency in re Foreign Liquor question. I shall feel obliged by your letting me know whether there is any objection to the suggestion therein made -

Wishing you the compliments of the season

I am

Yours Sincerely

Sd/ T. Aravamudu Ayr

H. H. Sparkes Esqr.
Excise Commr.

"Copy"

23/12/09

M E M O R A N D U M.

These papers relate to certain proposals made by the Excise Commissioner for amending the Rules for the sale of Foreign liquors in the State.

2. The proposal of the Excise Commissioner is that the existing Rules VII, X and XI, which are extracted in the margin for convenience of reference, should be cancelled and that the following new Rule substituted:-

XI. "Foreign liquor license-holders shall sell only such liquors at such strength and price as may be determined by the Excise Commissioner."

x

VII. Every applicant for a license to sell or bottle foreign spirits and foreign fermented liquors, shall give to the District Deputy Commissioner a list in writing of the particular brands he wishes to sell or bottle. The Deputy Commissioner must then satisfy himself that every brand named in the list is of genuine foreign spirit and foreign fermented liquor and is entered in the authoritative list issued by the Excise Commissioner. If he finds in the list any doubtful or spurious brand, he shall exclude the same from the list to be appended to the license. The list appended to the license will be liable to be added to, or otherwise altered, upon the application of the license-holder.

X. Brands bottled in India shall not be admitted into the list without the sanction of Government. The Government, before giving such sanction, will require the strictest guarantee that no country liquor in any shape enters into the composition of such brands. The recommendation of the Excise Commissioner for the sanction of Government to admit into the list any genuine foreign brands bottled in India, shall be accompanied by the gurantees given by the bottlers that no country liquors or drugs or other deleterious substances have entered into the composition of the brands specified in the guarantees.

XI. No foreign spirits below 15° under-proof will be allowed to be sold under any of the licenses except special licenses and dining car licenses granted under Rule II. The District Deputy Commissioner may, however allow the licensees to dispose of any spirits below 15° under-proof, which may remain in stock after these Rules come to force, but shall admit no such spirits into licenses except special licenses issued from and after the 15th September 1901.

3. The chief reason for the change is

that the rule that foreign liquors weaker in strength than 15° U.P. shall not be sold (except under what are known as "special licenses" and "dining car licenses") shuts out many highly priced and popular brands of Brandies, Whiskies &c. The object of the existing rule seems to prevent the sale of foreign liquors that would interfere with the sale of arrack and of special liquors manufactured in the Central Distillery; but, as observed by the Excise Commissioner, the quality of a brand does not necessarily depend on its strength. The Excise Commissioner says that under the existing rule many high class brands are not allowed to be sold, while several brands which are cheaper, and therefore obviously of inferior quality, are allowed to be sold merely because their strength is above the prescribed minimum. This rule has also formed the subject of a complaint from the principal wine merchants of Madras.

4. The Excise Commissioner considers that the "price test" is the only reliable test of the wholesomeness of any particular brand of

liquor, and of its entering into competition with country spirits, and proposes that he should be free to regulate the strength and price of the liquors to be sold. But as observed in the office notes this modification of the Rules would take matters relating to the trade in Foreign liquors entirely out of the hands of the Government, and I agree with the Councillors in thinking that the change proposed is undesirable, and all that is necessary is that provision should be made for the inclusion in the authorised lists issued by the Excise Commissioner of wholesome brands of liquor even though they are weaker in strength than 15 U.P.

5. Although the attempt to fix the prices at which Foreign liquors are to be sold (which in the substance of the Excise Commissioner's proposal) is not likely to be successful, still the price at which a brand is sold affords a valuable indication as to its wholesomeness, and as to the chances of its competing with country spirits. If the Excise Commissioner is satisfied that a brand of liquor cannot possibly

possibly be placed on the market below a certain price, which is so much higher than the price of country spirit that it is certain that it will not compete with country spirit, and which will ensure its wholesomeness, there need be no objection to the Government, on the Excise Commissioner's recommendation, allowing the sale of such brand, even though it may be weaker than 15° U.P.

6. In this view I am of opinion that all that is necessary is to substitute the following for the existing Rule XI.:-

XI. "No foreign spirits weaker in strength than 15° U.P. will ordinarily be entered in the authoritative list issued by the Excise Commissioner referred to in Rule VII, or allowed to be sold under any of the licenses granted under Rule II except under special licenses and Dining car licenses; but the Government may authorise the entering in the list and the sale of any specified brands of weaker strength, on being satisfied of their wholesomeness and purity."

It is unnecessary to repeat in the new Rule the

last sentence of the existing Rule XI, as it was a transitory provision which is no longer required.

7. If this is approved, the wine merchants of Madras should also have no cause for complaint.

D. O.

OFFICE OF THE EXCISE COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE,
Bangalore, Dated 24/12/09 19

Dear Mr. Aminda Rao.

Many thanks for the
enclosed & for 2nd copy in sending
the Draft & D which I see
no objection, altho I cannot
can hardly expect me Dagra in
the view of the matter taken by you
& the committee, still I believe 2nd
proposal be the best alternative
& which should remove all objections
on the part of the Madras Government.
Allow me to remain (in writing
2nd the compliments of the season
Yours
H. Sperry

13 1/6

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith the files relating to (1) proposals made by the Excise Commissioner for the amendment of certain rules for the sale of Foreign liquors in Mysore; and (2) Residency letter No.6226 dated 20th September 1909 regarding the representation of the Wine merchants of Madras against the restrictions imposed in the Mysore State with reference to Foreign liquor of a strength weaker than 15° U.P.

(linked file)

Paper under disposal (1)

2. The office notes contain the discussions and the opinions of the Councillors. My views are embodied in the accompanying memorandum and the draft letter to the Residency in reply to their letter of the 20th September. I forwarded these papers demi-officially to Mr. Sparkes who sees no objection to the suggestions therein made being adopted, though he says he does not quite agree with me. My proposals are conceived on 'lines of least resistance' and as observed by Mr. Sparkes ~~will~~ should remove all objections on the part of Madras and other firms. [My

P

14 7

S letter to the Excise Commissioner and his reply are also submitted for information.]

3. The recommendations made in the memorandum and the draft reply to the Residency may be approved.

SRR

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

29.12.09
724

proposals made by the Excise Commissioner for the amendment of certain rules for the sale of Foreign liquors in Mysore; and Residency letter regarding the representation of the wine merchants of Madras, against the restrictions imposed in the Mysore State with reference to Foreign liquor of a strength weaker than 15° U.P.

436

697
5.1.10

Order.

Approved
~~KRW~~
31/1/10

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

GA File No. 68 of 1909

16 9

Serial No.	
	To the FA Resident
	no Pol-567 of 13-1-10
4	Explains how it has been decided to change Rule XI of the Foreign Liquor Rules so as to leave no ground for complaint.

NOTE— Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—12-8-10

No. 6226

From

T. B. COPELAND, Esq., I. C. S.,
FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 20th September 1909.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the firms noted in the margin who are --- amongst the principal

Messrs. Cutler, Palmer & Co.,
" King & Co.
" Mc Dowell & Co.
" Oakes & Co.
" Spencer & Co.
" Walker & Co.

Wine merchants of Madras, have submitted a representation to the Resident complaining against the restrictions imposed in the Mysore State with reference to foreign liquor of a strength weaker than 15° under London Proof. An extract from the representation is forwarded herewith for the information of the Durbar.

2. Notification No. 10754, dated the 3rd June 1908, issued by the Excise Commissioner in Mysore, specifies the conditions which would govern the sale of foreign liquor after the 30th June 1908. These conditions include a prohibition -- (paragraph 19 (36) of the Notification) to sell Foreign spirits

below

On the 24th August 1908 a

below 15° U.P. the Excise Commissioner issued a further notification No. 2279 prohibiting the import into the Mysore State of liquor except under a permit from the Deputy Commissioner concerned. As the latter notification applies also to imports by private individuals, it is apparently in the power of the local authorities to prohibit the import of liquor weaker than 15° U.P., whether intended for sale or not. It is true that under the Durbar's notification No. 11469-Ex.F.3.1901, dated the 10th January 1902 the prohibition of the sale (under a license) of foreign spirits below 15° U.P. has technically been in force since the 15th September 1901, but this prohibition appears to have remained substantially a dead letter until the steps recently taken to secure compliance therewith.

3. As the orders recently issued appear to be calculated to prevent the sale in the State of many favourite and wholesome brands of foreign liquor, it seems desirable, in the opinion of the Resident, that the Mysore State should, if possible, conform to the minimum strengths prescribed for British India in paragraph 9 of Government of India, Finance Department Resolution No. 2095-Exc., dated the 16th May 1907, viz,

25° below London Proof for whisky and brandy.
35° " " " for gin.

The memorialists have stated that they will be completely satisfied if the minimum strength prescribed for British India are

adopted

adopted in Mysore.

4. As the relaxation of the limit of strength has not so far tended to increase consumption, there does not --- appear to be any reason to apprehend that the Excise revenue of the State will suffer, in the event of the adoption therein of the minimum strengths fixed for British India.

5. In conclusion, I am to say that Mr. Fraser will be obliged if the Durbar will give this matter their early consideration and communicate to this Residency a copy of any --- further instructions which may be issued on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. Cajetan

First Assistant Resident.

K.M.

Extract of ~~memorial~~ letter , dated the 28th April --- 1909, from Messrs. Cutler, Palmer & Co., ~~Madras~~, and ~~some~~ other principal Wine merchants ~~others~~ in Madras, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

& & & & & &

2. When we state that 99% of the better class of scund matured and well known brands of brandies, Whiskies, etc., --- which have been imported into Mysore for every many years past, will be affected by the Mysore Government's ruling, it will be clear that, not only have we the Importers been put to great hardship and loss, but consumers of the above-mentioned brands of high class Brandies, Whiskies, etc., which in all probability they have been in the habit of obtaining for years past, are no longer able to procure their requirements.

3. It is probably a well known fact to you that genuine brands of Brandies, Whiskies and other spiritis, the beneficial medicinal and consumptive properties of which have been materially improved by age, are naturally of a lower strength than newly made raw spirits, and the ruling of the Mysore Government is therefore ~~practically~~ particularly felt by those firms that import and sell genuine wholesome brands of matured spirits, the use of which cannot but contribute to the absence of deletericus effect to the consumer.

4. Following as it does on the report of the Government

of

of India's Excise Commission, whose existence and recommendations your Memorialists welcome with one accord, it is to be presumed that the Mysore Government's ruling, as to the strength at which spirits might be imported, was prompted solely with a view to the protection of the consumer, and in order that the importation and sale of unwholesome spirits might be checked.

& & & & &

9. The results of the most careful investigations of the Government of India's Excise Commission has been the adoption of the following minimum standards of strengths, at which spirits may in future be sold in British India

25° below London Proof for Whiskies, Brandies, and Rum

35° " " " for gin.

The decision of the Government of India, based on the report of the Excise Commission, in fixing these strengths has been extremely wise and well advised. Aiming as it does at the good of the consumer, the Government of India has recognised that, by fixing the above strengths, the importation and sale of pure wholesome and matured spirits will be encouraged, while it will no longer pay importers to sell so-called cheap Brandies and whiskies which, of late years, have flooded the Country, and which are in reality nothing else than German potato or

rice

6

rice spirit, bottled and sold as Brandy and Whisky.

& & & &

(C O P Y)

H.S. Tirumale: aiyangar

Registrar,
Mysore Resident's Office.

K.M.

No 3967

OFFICE OF THE EXCISE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, dated. 9th November *19* 09.

From

H. H. Sparkes, Esquire,

Excise Commissioner in Mysore.

To

K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar, Esq., B.A., B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General and Revenue Departments.

SIR,

Adverting to your Memo. No. Fl.1811/S.R.68-09, dated the 27th September 1909, forwarding a copy of a letter No.6226, dated the 20th September 1909, received from the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, regarding the restrictions imposed on the import and sale of foreign liquors, I have the honor to state that under Rule XI of Government Notification No.11469/Ex.F.3-1901, dated the 10th January 1902; no foreign spirits below 15° under-proof can be allowed to be sold under any of the licenses except special licenses granted under Rule ~~II~~. As observed in the Residency letter this prohibition did not remain substantially a dead letter but was in full force. It was only under special licenses that spirits below 15° under-proof were permitted to be sold. These special licenses as their name implies, were intended for special occasions and for limited periods. But in some cases they were issued current for the whole year and the concessions shown thereunder began tc be - -

abused

19

From

H. L. [illegible], Esquire,
Excise Commissioner in Mysore.

To

K.B. Chandrasekhara Aiyar, [illegible],
Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Genl. and Rev. Depts.

Dated 9th November 1909.

Despatched

Received

General No.

Enclosure No.

SUBJECT.

Submitting a report regarding the question of reducing the strength of foreign liquor sold in the Mysore State.

GPB--2,000--31-7-09

abused so much so that very weak and cheap liquors were being sold. As this was very detrimental to the legitimate arrack revenue of the State, the issue of these special licenses was placed under greater restrictions and the fee was raised to R^{s}.150/-. There is, therefore, no change in the rules but in issuing special licenses the utmost scrutiny is exercised.

2. There was practically no departmental control whatsoever over the transactions of foreign liquors in the State and as it was feared that a large quantity of these liquors was imported under the plea of bonafide domestic consumption and was sold clandestinely, it was found necessary to enforce strictly the provisions of section 6 of the Mysore Excise Regulation. These facts were brought to the - - notice of the Honourable the Resident and a request was made to move the Board of Revenue, Madras, to enforce Rule 7 of the Madras Abkari Act in respect of foreign liquors. But this question was not - - favourably considered.

3. I have more than once brought to the notice of Government that the system of foreign liquor administration inaugurated is to create every facilities for those who cannot do without such liquors, to limit the number of shops to the legitimate demand and to prevent the consumption of foreign liquors encroaching upon the consumption of country liquors. How well the measures adopted have served is - -

apparent

apparent from the results of last year. There was an increase in revenue followed by a decrease in consumption besides an increase in the consumption of the locally manufactured sophisticated liquors There has not been a single complaint either from the licensees or from private individuals that the system of obtaining permits under section 6 has been causing them any inconvenience. No doubt, the rules put it in the power of the local authorities to prohibit the import of liquor weaker than 15° under-proof, whether intended for sale or not. But in this case the local authority is the Deputy Commissioner and he can be credited with exercising his discretion without prejudice to the interest of the people. As I have already stated, now as well as before, it is only the holder of a special license that could be permitted to bring in liquors weaker than 15° under-prrof. As regards the import of weaker liquor for bonafide domestic consumption, I have yet to hear of a case in which the Deputy Commissioner has refused permission for the import of such liquors.

7

4. Notification No.10754, dated the 3rd June 1908, issued by the Excise Commissioner in Mysore, includes a condition prohibiting the sale of foreign spirits below 15° under-proof. This cannot be - - otherwise as the conditions of the notification should be consistent with the rules framed by Government. This notification refers to the sale by auction of Retail Off and Refreshment licenses under

both

both of which the licensees cannot sell any spirits weaker than 15° under-proof.

5. There is some force in the observations of the Honourable the Resident that the orders recently issued appear to prevent the sale in the State of many favourite and wholesome brands of foreign - - liquor. Here again I beg to point out that it is not any of the recent orders that have to do with the question but it is the rule about the sale of spirits below 15° under-proof. Special licenses were found to be abused and the issue of the same had to be almost stopped. But to facilitate the sale of wholesome brands though of weaker strength, I submitted my proposals in my letter No.10413, dated the 19th May 1909. If the proposals are sanctioned I am of opinion that there will not be any cause for any complaint.

Paper under original (Untinted)

6. For more reasons than one it is neither advisable nor safe to conform to the minimum strength prescribed for British India. I need not say that in respect of foreign spirits the Mysore Govern--ment does not stand on the same footing as the British Government. It is only the Madras Government that has introduced the minimum strengths prescribed by the Resolution of the Government of India. Nothing appears to have been done in the Bombay Government whence also foreign spirits are imported into the State. There are - - foreign brands of 25° U.P. which the licensees can afford to sell

cheaper

cheaper than the locally manufactured sophisticated liquors, for the matter of that, cheaper than even the ordinary arrack itself. The only safest course, therefore, that appears to me is the price-test which while creating due facility for the sale of wholesome brands, prevents the sale of cheap brands which would certainly encroach upon the consumption of ordinary arrack.

7. I request that Government may be pleased to accord early - - sanction to the amendments proposed in my letter of the 19th May last.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Excise Commissioner.

To

The First Assistant to the Hon'ble
the Resident in Mysore.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.6226 dated the 20th September 1909, forwarding an extract from a representation received by the Hon'ble the Resident from the principal wine merchants of Madras, in which they complain against the restrictions imposed in the Mysore State with reference to Foreign liquor of a strength weaker than 15° U.P. The Durbar were unable to reply to your communication earlier, pending a decision in regard to certain proposals made by the Excise Commissioner for amending the Foreign liquor Rules, which have for some time been under the consideration of the Durbar.

2. It is necessary here to mention that it is not correct to say that the rule made in 1901, prohibiting the sale of Foreign liquors of strength weaker than 15° U.P., has remained a dead letter until the issue of the Excise Commissioner's Notification dated ~~20th~~ 3rd June 1908. The sale of spirits of lower strength, though not allowed under most classes of licenses, was permitted under what are known as special licenses and dining car licenses. The Excise Commissioner reports that the prohibition against the sale of spirits of lower strength was in full force in regard to sales under

all other classes of licenses, and that all that has now been done is to restrict the issue of these special licenses. These licenses were intended for special occasions and for limited periods, but it is reported that in some cases they were issued current for the whole year, that the concessions shown thereunder began to be abused so much so that very weak and cheap liquors were being sold to the detriment of the arrack revenue of the State and that consequently the issue of these special licenses was placed under greater restriction, and the fee was raised to Rs.150.

3. Secondly, as regards restrictions on the import of liquor for private consumption: The Excise Commissioner reports that there had been in the past practically no departmental control in this matter and it was feared that a large quantity of these liquors was being imported under the plea of bona fide private consumption and sold clandestinely. It was therefore found necessary to strictly enforce the provisions of Section 6 of the Mysore Excise Regulation and the issue of the Excise Commissioner's Notification dated 24th August 1908 referred to in para 2 of your letter is the outcome of the action taken in this direction. This no doubt puts it into the power of the Deputy Commissioner to refuse to issue a permit for the import of foreign liquor of weaker strength than 15°U.P. for private consumption, in just the same manner as he can refuse to issue an import

permit even for liquors of higher strength. But no cases have until now been brought to the notice of the Durbar in which a Deputy Commissioner has refused to issue an import permit for liquor of weaker strength for bona fide domestic consumption; and the Durbar agree with the Excise Commissioner in considering that the Deputy Commissioner may be trusted to exercise a wise discretion in this matter and to freely issue permits for the import of foreign liquor even below 15° U.P. when he is satisfied that they are intended for bona fide domestic consumption.

4. The Durbar recognise the force of the observations of the Hon'ble the Resident as regards the existing Rule, which prohibits the sale under most classes of licenses of liquor weaker than 15° U.P., having the effect of preventing the sale in the State of many favourite and wholesome brands of foreign liquor; and the Durbar have, as a matter of fact, had this subject for some time under their consideration with a view to making suitable modification in the Rules. They however consider it inadvisable to conform to the minimum strength prescribed for British India, viz.,

25° U.P. for Whisky and Brandy, and

35° U.P. for Gin.

As the Durbar have more than once observed, they do not stand on the same footing as the British Government in respect of foreign liquors, as at present the duty on foreign liquors consumed in the State is credited

to the British Government. The Excise Commissioner reports that there are foreign brands of 25° U.P. which the licensees can afford to sell cheaper than the locally manufactured "Foreign liquors", and in some cases cheaper even than the ordinary arrack and the sale of such liquors in the State will be highly detrimental to the Excise revenue. The Durbar have therefore decided that when the Excise Commissioner is satisfied that a brand of foreign liquor cannot possibly be placed on the market below a certain price which is so much higher than the price of country spirit, that it is certain that it will not compete with country spirit, and which will ensure its wholesomeness, the Durbar will on the recommendation of the Excise Commissioner allow the sale of such brand even though it may be weaker than 15° U.P. With this object it has been decided to substitute the following for the existing Rule XI of the rules for the sale of Foreign liquors:-

Vide Govt Notification no. 72 4736 dated 23. 3. 1940 for the amendment

"XI. No foreign spirits weaker in strength than 15° U.P. will ordinarily be entered in the authoritative list issued by the Excise Commissioner referred to in Rule VII, or allowed to be sold under any of the licenses granted under Rule II except under special licenses and Dining car licenses; but the Government may authorise the entry in the list and the sale of any specified brands of weaker strength, on being satisfied of their wholesomeness and purity."